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Acronyms and abbreviations

10-YFP 10 Year Framework Programme

- (iv) Identification of implementation challenges and constraints and lessons learned.
 - (v) Recommendation of priority policy measures and actions to accelerate implementation, taking into account institutional and policy mechanisms, supporting tools and instruments, education and means of implementation.
8. A focus-group e-mail survey was also carried out 13378 0

than aid. Greater liberalization of agricultural trade in the markets of developed countries is, for example, key to improving Africa's agricultural export performance.

therefore unsustainable. A large share of the population remains undernourished, and the degradation of land and ecosystems worsens food insecurity. In cities, lifestyle changes have increased the demand for processed and imported food and packaging, leading to significant structural changes in food production systems and the processing industry. From an SCP perspective, these structural changes need to take into account consumer concerns about food safety, quality issues and environmental concerns.

- Africa is relatively well endowed with energy resources and produces about 10 per cent of the world's energy supply. However, with 13 per cent of the world's total population, Africa consumes only 5.5 per cent of the world energy, and it generates only 3.1 per cent of the world's electricity. The per capita energy consumption of 0.5 tonnes of oil equivalent, far lower than the world average of 1.2 tonnes of oil equivalent per capita makes the continent lag behind all others in energy use. Energy production tends to be costly, relying heavily on fossil fuels (about 80 per cent of electricity generation), despite significant untapped hydroelectric and other renewable energy potential. Energy consumption in Africa is still largely dominated by combustible renewable resources (biomass, animal waste, etc.), which represents 59 per cent of the total. In some countries, biomass accounts for more than 80 per cent of the total energy use. Lack of access to modern energy results in air pollution, acute health problems and environmental problems linked to over-consumption or inadequate management of wood resources. Many countries have relatively high energy intensities, showing the potential for energy efficiency. Only about 7 per cent of Africa's enormous hydro potential has been harnessed and based on the limited initiatives that have been undertaken to date, renewable energy technologies could contribute significantly

about 9 per cent. Positive performance in industrial growth in a few countries and an increase in foreign direct investment in African industry indicates potential for industrial take-off. The challenge is to ensure that environmental best practices are incorporated at the early stages of industrialization whenever manufacturing investments are being considered. It is to be noted that, while the overall level of industrial pollution is still low because of Africa's low level of industrialization, the environmental impact intensity in relation to the level of industrialization is among the highest in the world.

- Africa is the fastest-urbanizing region in the world. The rural population is growing at a rate of 2.5 per cent per year, while the urban population is experiencing 5-10 per cent growth per year. Africa's urban population was 373 million in 2007 and will reach 760 million in 2030. Increasing numbers of the poor will be city dwellers and sub-Saharan Africa has the third-largest number of slum dwellers, following South and East Asia. The urban population growth is not absorbed by the largest cities but by the intermediate cities (towns less than 500,000 inhabitants), where two thirds of all African urban growth is occurring. This swift urban growth means that Governments should strengthen the governance capacities of intermediate and smaller cities so as to be prepared for the rapid increase in new and additional demand for urban spatial planning, urban housing, urban services and urban livelihoods. The larger African cities will absorb the remaining one third of the continent-wide urban growth. Urbanization presents both a challenge and an opportunity. It is a challenge in that providing additional millions of people with adequate housing, water and sanitation, SCPation, waste management and other needs will require vast investment, skilled management and strong leadership. In addition, the concentration of people increases the risk of diseases, pollution and disaster. On the other hand, the concentration of people will also facilitate the provision of education, health care, SCPation and other social services. Urbanization also tends to conserve energy and natural resources.
- SCPation services contribute to development and their improvement will be essential for Africa to achieve sustainable development and the MDGs. The poor

- The “Africa’s Ecological Footprint and Human Well-being” Report shows that compared to the rest of the world, the average African’s footprint is small (1.1

of the fact that the problem of access to energy

cities development strategies. Furthermore, UN-HABITAT and other partners have also launched the Global Land Tool Network, which tries to document best land practices which could be of great benefit to Africa. In collaboration with the European Union, UN-HABITAT has implemented the Regional Urban Sector Profile for Sustainability in over 23 countries in Africa, to develop medium-to- long-term policies. Many African countries have mainstreamed sustainable urbanization into their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, and have introduced programmes and projects for the provision of basic urban services such as water and sanitation, slum upgrading and prevention policies, as well as social housing schemes. With support from the Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States and UN-HABITAT programme managers, several countries in the region have undertaken initiatives to review and reform national housing and urban development, and policies and legislation for adequate access to land, water and sanitation, slum prevention and upgrading and shelter. However, sustainable buildings criteria and rating systems still need to be developed, and SCP concerns are still not as integrated as they should be into spatial planning policies. The Clean Air Initiative in sub-Saharan African cities launched by the World Bank in 1998 aims to improve air quality through the reduction of air pollution originating particularly from motorized SCP. Cities across Africa need to push harder to access a growing range of global environment funds to help them finance sustainable public SCP systems. The problem of solid waste management is a growing source of concern in African urban centres driven by population growth, industrialization and rising living standards, and is identified as one of the major challenges in the promotion of sustainable consumption and production in the region. Industrial, electronic and medical waste, some of which is hazardous, is also increasing rapidly in many countries. African cities have not been able to set up adequate systems for the collection of municipal and industrial waste due to their poor infrastructure base, limited resources and lack of proper urban management.

21. **Sustainable industrial development and corporate social responsibility:** In 2004, the African Union endorsed the Africa Productive Capacity Initiative as a sustainable industrial development strategy of NEPAD. The African Productive Capacity Facility has been established as a financial mechanism to support the APCI. UNIDO has assisted many countries in Africa in developing and implementing programmes aimed at improving the competitiveness of selected industries, and wherever possible, identifying new market opportunities. UNIDO and UNEP, supported by UNDP and other bilateral donors, are the agencies most actively involved in promoting cleaner production in Africa. Projects to strengthen metrology, standards and testing institutions are under way in many countries. Countries have also established agro-processing ventures and medium-sized and micro-enterprises, and are gradually accessing finance, technology transfer and capacity-building opportunities for enhancing their growth and competitiveness, with an increased focus on women. NEPAD also sets the tone for corporate social responsibility (CSR) in Africa by highlighting the need to create conditions for private sector growth in order to generate social development benefits. The African Peer Review Mechanism is an important instrument that can effectively promote CSR. The African Institute of Corporate Citizenship is promoting the role of business in building sustainable communities. Given Africa's developmental context, the application of CSR on the continent would help address those issues affecting the daily lives of Africans, including health, education, agriculture, and food security. African business organizations and several stakeholders from civil society and academia are participatreeve--56(pro)-6.3lu3(ric

14000), and corporate management practices. More advanced sustainable production concepts and instruments, such as life cycle assessment, product service and product design systems are still in their infancy in the region. Sustainable production in Africa may be described as a “work in progress” that has a long way to go before becoming widely adopted and fully integrated as an everyday practice. Francophone African countries in West and Central Africa show virtually little institutional capacity in cleaner production due to the absence of NCPCs.

30. The regional capacity for promoting sustainable consumption is far less developed than for sustainable production. There are no strategic or policy frameworks for promoting sustainable consumption at the national level. Compared to sustainable production, sustainable consumption is a far less developed and less recognized concept, as the region is still dominated by people living in poverty. Another important explanation for the little attention paid by Governments to sustainable consumption is that consumption is often perceived as necessary for economic growth. More sustainable consumption is perceived by authorities as lowering economic growth, even though they are missing out on the benefits resulting from reduced costs to society and the achievement of sustainability. Also, since sustainable consumption is a relatively new concept, consumer activism, when it exists, is still focused on prices, quality and safety. Sustainable consumption still remains to be mainstreamed into the consumer movement. There is also a general lack of capacity on sustainable consumption tools.

V. Challenges and constraints in implementing SCP activities

31. Priority areas for SCP will differ from one country to another, but the following challenges and constraints seem to be commonplace in most countries:

- (i) Poor education and lack of awareness of the benefits of SCP among all stakeholders;
- (ii) Government failures (lack of legislation and/or enforcement; weak recognition of SCP in most policies; weak institutional capacity for monitoring and using economic instruments; absence of enforceable pollution standards; lack of decentralization to local authorities; lack of appropriate consumer rights, policies and legal instruments for promotion of sustainable consumption; incoherent policies);
- (iii) Lack of human and technical capacity (lack of capacity for product development and formulation of bankable CP projects in industry; lack of capacity on SCP tools in government; widespread reliance on obsolete technologies; lack of information on emerging clean technologies);
- (iv)

policies. Governments should develop appropriate national policy frameworks to effectively support integration and development of sustainable consumption and production, and the coordination between different government departments. SCP should be integrated into poverty reduction strategies, national strategies for sustainable development, or national environment action plans. Once integrated, a second step would be to develop concrete sectoral action plans or frameworks

- § Promote and support the integration of SCP into the policies of major development organizations and agencies.
- § Promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, including natural resources accounting, payments for ecosystem services, and the operationalization of multilateral environmental agreements such as the Clean Development Mechanism.
- § Enhance corporate environmental and social responsibility and accountability.
- § Strengthen demand-side management programmes with a focus on energy and water.
- § Support the scientific and technical community through public and private sector funded research and development for SCP.
- §

- § Support Governments wanting to promote low-resource intensity societies and lifestyles.
- § Encourage and leverage forums on alternative ways of consuming (including NGOs, community groups, cooperatives, and consumer groups).
- § Create a resource repository and translation facility which can include best practices databases.
- § Create networks of excellence on SCP, particularly linking African universities and NCPCs with centres of excellence with each other and with counterparts in developed countries.
- § Experiment with local sustainable communities, stimulating grassroots sustainable action, with the active involvement of NGOs.
- § Conduct systematic SCP education and awareness campaigns, for example on energy and water use efficiency, using national television and other media to generate actions for a change to sustainable lifestyles.

B.3 Means of implementation

- § An effective institutional framework at national, regional and global levels is crucial for the promotion of SCP.
- § Mobilization of financial resources through the development of SCP action plans and using the whole array of funding opportunities for its implementation. Special funds can be created by ministries of finance to fund SCP projects using revenues from taxes, subsidies, development partners and carbon credits.
- § Technology transfer and capacity-building to develop a critical mass of professionals in any country for implementing SCP activities.
- § Information and outreach by raising the visibility of SCP to international agencies and regional ministerial conferences using information tools and SCP networks.
- § Enhancing partnerships and collaboration with development agencies, Marrakech Task Forces, other SCP round tables and SCP research centres of excellence.

35. It is important to focus on some concrete priority SCP projects at the regional level and then mobilize support for their implementation. The following priority projects to be implemented in the region in the short term were identified during the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on the Sustainable Development Report on Africa (SDRA) 2008-2009, held in Addis Ababa from 24 to 26 June 2009. The potential implementing organizations for the different projects as identified during the meeting are given in italics in parentheses.

1. **Capacity-building for national SCP action plans** (*UNEP, ARSCP, Marrakech Taskforce (MTF) on Cooperation with Africa and MTF on Sustainable Public Procurement*)
2. **African local SCP initiative** (*ICLEI Africa, ARSCP, UNEP and Miffs*)
3. **Regional programme on resource efficiency and cleaner production, including building capacities of national action plans and SCP institutions** (*UNEP, UNIDO and RECP*)
4. **African Eco-labelling Mechanism** (*African Organization on Standardization, ARSCP, Marrakech Taskforce (MTF) on Cooperation with Africa*).
5. **Promoting an integrated solid waste management system in Africa** (*UNEP, local Governments (ICLEI-Africa, ARSCP)*)
6. **Education for sustainable consumption and production in Africa** (*ARSCP, MTFs on Education for SCP and Sustainable Lifestyles, ICLEI-Africa*)
7. **Sustainable building and construction in Africa** (*Green Building Council – South Africa, ICLEI-Africa, MTF on Sustainable Building and Construction, ARSCP*)
8. **Promoting small-scale renewable products and biomass-based co-generation** (*UNIDO, UNEP, ARSCP*)

38. Even with regional and international support, SCP is a concept that needs to be built from the national level. Change towards SCP is a systemic challenge. Businesses, consumers and policymakers usually cannot solve problems alone, but must work together in a “triangle